

ment of chorea, *Coll. & Clin. Rec.*, May, 1881. MICKLE: On general paralysis of the insane, consequent to locomotor ataxy, *The Lancet*, May 21 and 28, 1881.

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#### c.—THERAPEUTICS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND MIND.

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VOMITING OF PREGNANCY.—Dr. J. S. Warren, *N. Y. Med. Record*, March 26th, considers the vomiting of pregnancy due to various influences, mental ones included, and to remedy it requires a careful diagnosis of its cause, whether it be simply reflex, or due to some other organic condition. Its treatment, therefore, resolves itself into the correction of all disturbances, functional or organic, as far as possible, which are known to excite dyspeptic symptoms; before a simple irritation becomes a confirmed gastritis, and the stomach rejects the remedies that would most easily relieve the original disorder. First among these, Dr. Warren recognizes a constipated habit and the emotional element, and these, he holds, should receive prompt attention in pregnancy. The latter of these is, he says, relieved by no remedies more generally than by the bromides of potash and soda, given, as a rule, in full doses late in the day, on an empty stomach. Constipation can be overcome by any simple laxative. After these, the purely sympathetic disorder must be attended to if vomiting persists. The most patent remedy for this, in his experience, is Fowler's solution, in drop doses, on an empty stomach. When thus given with a restricted diet, it has seemed to him nearer a specific for this complaint than any other medicine. After it has been used for a while it may be found of advantage to suspend it and use nitromuriatic acid, with tinc. nucis vomicae, especially if there is any inactivity of the liver or kidneys, or if anorexia exists.

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STATIC ELECTRICITY.—The following are the conclusions of an article by Dr. W. J. Morton (*N. Y. Med. Record*, April 2d and 9th) on the therapeutic use of Franklinism, or static electricity.

*First.*—Static electricity as a curative agent in medicine may fairly be placed on a level with galvanism and Faradism. In certain diseased conditions it is superior to either.

in remote parts by peripheral irritation of the terminal distribution of the sensory nerves. In electrification by insulation, electricity of high tension is actively accumulating on and beneath the skin, *i. e.*, the nerve distribution, and as actively discharging: the effects of static electricity are then in this instance produced from the periphery; and owing to the fact that the electrification is general and the tension high, no other form of electricity offers equal promise in the treatment of diseases or conditions that can be affected either in a sedative or stimulating manner from the general peripheral nerve distribution. The recent experiments of Brown-Séquard lead us to believe that many diseases may be thus acted upon.

*Ninth.*—The invention by the author of a method of obtaining an interrupted static induction current from a frictional electrical machine, adds to medical electricity a new and practical means of electrical treatment.

This current is more agreeable in its administration than ordinary induction currents. Both nerves and muscles are stimulated by it to a higher degree than is possible by means of any other induction current now in use, and a corresponding advance in the efficacy of electrical therapeutics in these two directions may be confidently expected.

The new current, furthermore, greatly enlarges the scope of statical electrical machines in medicine by combining in a single machine all the advantages both of static and induction electricity.

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**ELECTROTHERAPY OF THE BRAIN.**—The following is a translation of a short article by Dr. Leopold Löwenfeld, in the *Centralblatt für die Med. Wissenschaft*, No. 8, February 19th.

Up to date there have been published no actual experimental researches on the action of the electrical current applied through the integument, in a longitudinal or transverse direction through the head, on the circulation within the cranial cavity. The only previous investigations, especially upon the action of an electric current passed through the head, on the cerebral (meningeal) vessels, are those of Legros and Onimus, and Latourneau. Legros and Onimus (*Traité d' Electricité Médicale*, Paris, 1872, p. 197) trepanned a dog and passed the current from a battery of ten Remak cells through the brain, applying one pole to the denuded brain and the other to a wound in the neck in the neighborhood of the superior cervical ganglion. They found with the descend-